[9th November 1935

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"May I know, Sir, if these rules were followed in the case of the Assistant Panchayat Officer appointed in Anantapur district recently?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"I can say that the rules have been followed."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister call for information as to whether any Muhammadan was appointed to the post?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"It is not possible in all cases to apply the communal principle to these appointments as in a great majority of cases persons doing similar duties in the district boards are appointed and in other cases appointments are made from district board and ex-taluk board employees."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—"Is it a fact that no Muhammadan has been appointed to the post?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"I am not in a position to answer the question."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—"Will the Hon. the Minister suggest to the local bodies that some Muhammadans are appointed to the posts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"The difficulty is that the appointing authority is the president of the district board. The Government can only see that the rules are observed."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—"Will not the principle of communal representation be made applicable to these posts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"It has been applied to certain cases. But in the case of these appointments it is not possible to make it effective for the reason already stated."

Appointment of Muslims as Assistant Panchayat Officers.

* 521 *Q.*—Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Assistant Panchayat Officers appointed till now;

(*b*) the number of Muslims appointed to the said posts; and

(*c*) whether the proportion of the Muslim appointees is in accordance with the communal Government Order; if not, why not?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 350 delivered on the 31st October 1935.